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SENATE BILL 688

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY
Cynthia Nava

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; EXTENDING THE TIME FOR
APPLICATION FOR LOTTERY TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
Chapter 71, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"21-1-4.3. TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORIZED--CERTAIN
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.--

A. To the extent that funds are made available by
the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the boards of
regents of New Mexico state university, New Mexico institute of
mining and technology, eastern New Mexico university, western
New Mexico university, the university of New Mexico, New Mexico
highlands university and northern New Mexico [~~state school~~]
college shall award tuition scholarships for qualified resident

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1 students attending their respective institutions and branches
2 of those institutions.

3 B. Except as authorized in [~~Subsection~~] Subsections
4 C and D of this section, the tuition scholarships authorized in
5 this section shall apply only to full-time resident students
6 who, [~~immediately upon~~] within twelve months of completion of a
7 high school curriculum at a public or accredited private New
8 Mexico high school or upon receiving a [~~graduate equivalent~~
9 ~~diploma~~] general educational development certificate, are
10 accepted for entrance to and attend one of the state
11 educational institutions set forth in this section or one of
12 the branches of those institutions. Each tuition scholarship
13 shall be awarded for up to four consecutive years beginning the
14 second semester of the recipient's first year of enrollment,
15 provided that the recipient has maintained residency in New
16 Mexico and maintained a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on
17 a 4.0 scale during [~~his~~] the first semester of full-time
18 enrollment.

19 C. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
20 section shall also apply to full-time resident students who,
21 [~~immediately upon~~] within twelve months of completion of a high
22 school curriculum at a public or accredited private New Mexico
23 high school or upon receiving a graduate equivalent diploma,
24 attend a two-year public post-secondary educational institution
25 in New Mexico and who, upon the completion of that curriculum

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1 or at the end of two years, whichever is sooner, transfer to
2 one of the post-secondary state educational institutions set
3 forth in this section. Those students shall be eligible for a
4 tuition scholarship for two consecutive years, provided that
5 those students maintain residency in New Mexico, maintain a
6 grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale and attend
7 the institution full time during the regular academic year.

8 D. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
9 section shall also apply to full-time resident students who:

10 (1) within [~~one hundred twenty days~~] twelve
11 months of completion of a high school curriculum at a public or
12 accredited private New Mexico high school, or of receiving a
13 [~~graduate equivalent diploma~~] general educational development
14 certificate, begin service in the United States armed forces;
15 and

16 (2) within one hundred twenty days of
17 completion of honorable service or medical discharge from the
18 service are accepted for entrance to and attend one of the
19 state educational institutions set forth in this section.

20 E. The [~~commission on~~] higher education department
21 shall prepare guidelines setting forth explicit student
22 continuing eligibility criteria and guidelines for
23 administration of the tuition scholarship program. Guidelines
24 shall be distributed to the board of regents of each
25 institution to enable a uniform availability of the resident

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1 student tuition scholarships."

2 Section 2. Section 21-13-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963,
3 Chapter 17, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

4 "21-13-10. BOARD DUTIES.--

5 A. It is the duty of the community college board to
6 determine financial and educational policies of the community
7 college. The community college board shall provide for the
8 management of the community college and execution of these
9 policies by selecting a competent president for the community
10 college, and, upon the president's recommendation, the board
11 shall employ other administrative personnel, instructional
12 staff or other personnel as may be needed for the operation,
13 maintenance and administration of the community college.

14 B. The community college board shall have the power
15 to fix tuition and fee rates for resident and nonresident
16 students of the community college district, to accept gifts, to
17 accept federal aid, to purchase, hold, sell and rent property
18 and equipment and to promote the general welfare of the
19 institution for the best interest of educational service to the
20 people of the community college district.

21 C. To the extent that funds are made available by
22 the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the community
23 college board shall award tuition scholarships for qualified
24 resident students attending their respective institutions.

25 D. The tuition scholarships authorized in this

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1 section shall apply only to full-time resident students who,
2 [~~immediately upon~~] within twelve months of completion of a high
3 school curriculum at a public or accredited private New Mexico
4 high school or upon receiving a [~~graduate equivalent diploma~~]
5 general educational development certificate, are accepted for
6 entrance to and attend a community college. Each tuition
7 scholarship shall be awarded for up to two consecutive years
8 beginning the second semester of the recipient's first year of
9 enrollment, provided that the recipient has maintained
10 residency in New Mexico and maintained a grade point average of
11 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale during [~~his~~] the first semester of
12 full-time enrollment.

13 E. The [~~commission on~~] higher education department
14 shall prepare guidelines setting forth explicit student
15 continuing eligibility criteria and guidelines for
16 administration of the tuition scholarship program. Guidelines
17 shall be distributed to community college boards to enable a
18 uniform availability of the resident student tuition
19 scholarships."

20 Section 3. Section 21-16-10.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
21 Chapter 71, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

22 "21-16-10.1. TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORIZED.--

23 A. To the extent that funds are made available by
24 the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the board of a
25 technical and vocational institute shall award tuition

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1 scholarships for qualified resident students attending a
2 technical and vocational institute.

3 B. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
4 section shall apply only to full-time resident students who,
5 [~~immediately upon~~] within twelve months of completion of a high
6 school curriculum at a public or accredited private New Mexico
7 high school or upon receiving a [~~graduate equivalent diploma~~]
8 general educational development certificate, are accepted for
9 entrance to and attend a technical and vocational institute.
10 Each tuition scholarship shall be awarded for up to two
11 consecutive years beginning the second semester of the
12 recipient's first year of enrollment, provided that the
13 recipient has maintained residency in New Mexico and maintained
14 a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale during
15 [~~his~~] the first semester of full-time enrollment with renewal
16 of an additional two years upon transfer.

17 C. The [~~commission on~~] higher education department
18 shall prepare guidelines setting forth explicit student
19 continuing eligibility criteria and guidelines for
20 administration of the tuition scholarship program. Guidelines
21 shall be distributed to the boards of technical and vocational
22 institutes to enable a uniform availability of the resident
23 student tuition scholarships."